



Committee: UNWOMEN

Agenda Item: Medical Negligence of Women

Country: Iraq

Delegate: Sude Akdeniz

Women are struggling with neglect in medical care all around the World. Solving this issue is hard due to changing conditions and indigenous problems in every country such as epidemics, economic crisis, wars and natural disasters. The Republic of Iraq has been dealing with civil wars, terror attacks and lastly the Iraq War, which affected the economy, social life and healthcare system negatively in last 30 years. Before the beginning of all of the wars in 1970s Iraq had developed a centralized free hospital- based health care system. Meanwhile, a capital-intensive model of curative care had been being used. Furthermore, the Republic of Iraq had used a large part of their oil export income to make various investments such as medicines, medical equipment in the field of health.

After the first Gulf War of 1991, which destroyed health infrastructure, and because of sanctions lasting for a decade government spending on health significantly reduced which led to a brain drain in the medical profession that lasts since then. After those years, women and girls of Iraq faced loss of many fundamental rights and their status in Iraqi society changed. Conflicts affected every aspect of life in Iraq including women's health. In June 2014, it got worse because one of the most important cities for oil in Iraq fell to Islamic State Group. Yet, in 2016, Iraqi security forces and the international coalition took action to retake the city and the attack was launched. The battle lasted more than 250 days written in history as one of the deadliest urban battles since World War II. Almost five years Iraqi authorities officially declared many medical facilities got damaged during the battle. Furthermore, it was also declared that lots of medical equipment was not fit for use.

The delegation of Iraq thinks that due to the lack of women's health caused by emergencies such as war and epidemics, international medical organizations such as WHO and MFI should cooperate with the UN women committee and provide the necessary assistance. As Iraq, we assure you that we are determined to raise awareness of our society concerning the issues related to women's health. In this committee, we hope that we will discuss the precautions that can be taken about the negligence which women experience in the field of health and find most effective solutions. We also hope that this meeting will contribute to the development of our country in terms of women's rights.